

Clearwater Region

MAPS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!™**



Clearwater Region

General Fishing Season for the Clearwater Region

All Waters Open All Year except as modified in Clearwater Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 11-12.

Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.

General Bag and Possession Limits for the Clearwater Region

The following bag and possession limits apply to all waters of the Clearwater Region except as modified in Clearwater Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 11-12.

Bass (largemouth and smallmouth)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined

Brook Trout

- Brook trout limit is 25

Bull Trout

- Bull trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- **No bull trout harvest is allowed**

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 25, 50 in possession

Salmon (ocean-going)

- Salmon seasons and limits are set annually by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and rules are issued in a separate brochure
- Fishing for or targeting salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

Steelhead (ocean-going)

- Defined as rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam, and lakes)
- Fishing for or targeting steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see pages 36–40)

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks and sliding sinkers are required, see Page 49 for details

Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

Trout includes cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, and trout hybrids

- In rivers and streams, trout limit is 2, all species combined
- In lakes, reservoirs, ditches and canals, trout limit is 6, all species combined

Does not include bull trout and brook trout which are listed separately

Whitefish

- Whitefish limit is 25

Protected Nongame Fish includes Pacific lamprey and sand rollers

- May not be harvested or possessed

All Other Fish Species includes bullfrogs and crayfish

- No bag, size or possession limit

Special Rule Waters for the Clearwater Region (see Pages 11-12 for details)

Big Elk Creek (tributary to South Fork Clearwater River)
Clearwater River
Clearwater River, Middle Fork
Clearwater River, North Fork
Clearwater River, South Fork
Crooked Creek
Crooked Fork Creek (tributary to Lochsa River)
Dworshak Reservoir

Elk Creek and tributaries (tributary to Dworshak Reservoir)
Elk Creek Reservoir
Fish Lake (Cedars Area)
Kelly Creek and tributaries
Lake Creek (Cedars Area)
Lochsa River
Mann Lake
Moose Creek Reservoir
Palouse River and tributaries

Red River
Salmon River
Salmon River tributaries
Selway River
Snake River (Lewiston to Hells Canyon Dam)
Spring Valley Reservoir
Tolo Lake
Winchester Lake

Special Rule Waters For the Clearwater Region

See Page 10 for fishing season, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Clearwater Region except as listed below.

Big Elk Creek (tributary to South Fork Clearwater River)

- Trout limit is 6

Clearwater River

Section: From the mouth upstream to the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept
- Fishing between posted boundaries 100 yards upstream and downstream from the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery Ladder (near Cherry Lane Bridge) and extending into the river channel 50 yards is prohibited
- Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited

Section: From the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino upstream to the confluence of the South Fork and Middle Fork Clearwater rivers

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept
- September 1 through April 30 - No motors allowed

Clearwater River, Middle Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches
- September 1 through April 30 - No motors allowed

Clearwater River, North Fork

Section: From the mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept
- When fishing from Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is illegal to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge; fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited
- Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted line approximately 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River and the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge
- Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited

Section: From the upper end of flat water of Dworshak Reservoir upstream

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 2, no cutthroat trout under 14 inches, no bait allowed

Clearwater River, South Fork

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept
- Only single-pointed barbless hooks are allowed while fishing for steelhead and salmon

Crooked Creek (tributary to Salmon River)

Section: From mouth upstream to Big Creek - Clearwater Region general rules apply

Section: Upstream of Big Creek

- Trout limit is 6

Crooked Fork Creek (tributary to Lochsa River)

Section: From the mouth to Brushy Fork Creek

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Section: From Brushy Fork Creek upstream - Clearwater Region general rules apply

Dworshak Reservoir

Section: From Dworshak Dam upstream to Grandad Bridge

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be cutthroat trout, no cutthroat trout under 14 inches

Section: From Grandad Bridge upstream to end of flat water

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be cutthroat trout, no cutthroat trout under 14 inches
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - no bait allowed except maggots, barbless hooks required
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - bait and barbed hooks allowed

Elk Creek and tributaries (tributary to Dworshak Reservoir)

- Trout limit is 6, brook trout must be counted in trout limit

Elk Creek Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, brook trout must be counted in trout limit

Fish Lake (Cedars Area)

- No motors allowed
- December 1 through July 31 – closed to fishing
- August 1 through November 30 - Clearwater Region general rules apply

Kelly Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Lake Creek (Cedars Area)

Section: From the mouth upstream to Goose Creek - Clearwater Region general rules apply

Section: From Goose Creek to Fish Lake including all tributaries (Cedar Flat area)

- December 1 through July 31 – closed to fishing
- August 1 through November 30 - Clearwater Region general rules apply

Lochsa River

Section: From the mouth upstream to Wilderness Gateway Campground Motor Bridge, near Highway 12 milepost 122

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches, no bait allowed

Section: From Wilderness Gateway Campground Motor Bridge upstream to the confluence of Colt Killed Creek and Crooked Fork Creek

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Mann Lake

- Bass limit is 6, none under 12 inches
- Electric motors only
- October 1 to December 31 - No boats allowed

Moose Creek Reservoir

- Electric motors only

Palouse River and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6

Red River

- Trout limit is 6

Salmon River

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept

Salmon River tributaries

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the Middle Fork Salmon River (except Crooked Creek, Little Salmon River, and South Fork Salmon River)

- Trout limit is 2

Section: Those tributaries above the mouth of Middle Fork Salmon River - See Page 35, Salmon River tributaries, Special Rule Waters

Selway River

Section: From the mouth upstream to Selway Falls cable car

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches, no bait allowed

Section: From Selway Falls cable car upstream to Selway Falls Bridge at Meadow Creek

- Closed to fishing

Section: From Selway Falls Bridge at Meadow Creek upstream

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Snake River (Lewiston upstream to Hells Canyon Dam)

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept

Spring Valley Reservoir

- Electric motors only

Tolo Lake

- Electric motors only

Winchester Lake

- Electric motors only

Teach fundamental skills and attitudes to make new hunters safe, confident, and responsible.

**HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS NEEDED**

- Give back
 - Set a good example
 - Pass on the tradition
- Get Involved Today!**

Contact your nearest Fish and Game office for more information

**Natural Shorelines are Good for Fishing**

By keeping shorelines natural, you can help protect water quality and improve fish habitat. A shoreline without trees and shrubs can get washed away, making the water muddy and unsuitable for fish. If you live near a lake or a river, plant a buffer strip along the water's edge using trees, shrubs, wildflowers or other native plants. Trees and other vegetation filter pollution and provide shade, shelter, habitat, and food critical for bass, trout, and other fish to thrive and reproduce. Keep your favorite fishing spots well vegetated! For more tips and information, visit <http://water.epa.gov/type/lakes/index.cfm>